

SB NEWSLIN @ ALLBBS \$NLIN.952  
Amateur Radio Newsline #952 12 NOV 1995

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NEWSLINE RADIO - CBBS EDITION #952 - POSTED 11/12/95

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The following is late news about Amateur Radio for Radio Amateurs as prepared from NEWSLINE RADIO scripts by the staff of the AMATEUR RADIO NEWSLINE, INC. -- formerly the WESTLINK RADIO NETWORK. Amateur Radio Newsline is a audio news service distributed via telephone.

This hardcopy version is produced by Dale Cary - WD0AKO from scripts provided to him weekly by Newsline. It is then distributed to on-line services, bbs networks and internet user jointly by Dale Cary and Steve Coletti.

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The audio version of Newsline can be recorded from one of the currently operating lines listed below. This list is kept as accurate as possible. If any changes are not listed, please contact Dale Cary - WD0AKO at the above listed addresses.

#### Audio Version of Newsline

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Los Angeles.....	(213) 462-0008
Los Angeles (Instant Update Line).....	(805) 296-2407
Seattle.....	(206) 368-3969
Seattle.....	(206) 281-8455
Tacoma.....	(206) 927-7373
Louisville.....	(502) 894-8559
Dayton.....	(513) 275-9991
Chicago.....	(708) 289-0423
New York City.....	(718) 284-0752
Melbourne, Florida.....	(407) 768-7447
Houston, Texas.....	(713) 362-4650
Conroe, Texas.....	(409) 525-6250

#### Electronic Hardcopy Version of Newsline

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GEnie (RTC Bulletin Board).....	m345;1
GEnie (File Library).....	m345;3
Dallas Remote Imaging BBS (DRIG).....	(214) 492-7573
In bulletin number 36	
The Midwest Connection BBS.....	(701) 239-2440
In bulletin number 6 of the ham radio conference	
Delphi.....	In the ham radio conference
CompuServe/HamNet.....	HamNet Library 0
Internet.....	In the rec.radio.info newsgroup
Internet FTP: oak.oakland.edu.....	
In archive: pub/hamradio/docs/newsline	
Local BBS's.....	In the Ham Radio conferences on
Fidonet, RIME, Intellec, I-Link, AR-Net and Fringenet.	

For the latest breaking info call the Instant Update Line listed above. To provide information please call (805) 296-7180. This line answers automatically and will accept up to 30 minutes of material.

Check with your local amateur radio club to see if NEWSLINE can be heard weekly on the air in your area.

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For further information about the AMATEUR RADIO NEWSLINE, please write to us with an SASE at

NEWSLINE  
c/o Andy Jarema-N6TCQ  
P.O.Box 660937  
Arcadia, CA  
91066

Thank You,

NEWSLINE

(\*\*\*\*\*)

Some of the hams of NEWSLINE RADIO...

WA6ITF WB6MQV WB6FDF K6DUE W6RCL N6AHU N6AWE N6TCQ K6PGX N6PNY  
KU8R N8DTN W9JUV KC9RP K9XI KB4KCH KC5UD KC0HF G8AUU WD0AKO DJ0QN  
and many others in the United States and around the globe!!!

(\*\*\*\*\*)

[952]

(\* \* \* \* C L O S E D C I R C U I T A D V I S O R Y \* \* \* \*)  
(\*  
(\* The following advisory is not for transmission over \*  
(\* amateur radio. As most of you know, earlier this year \*  
(\* Newsline took over the administration of the Young Ham of \*  
(\* the Year Award. This, after its previous administrator, \*  
(\* the Westlink Report ham radio newsletter ceased \*  
(\* publication. Rather than see the Young Ham of the Year \*  
(\* Award go to oblivion, we assumed the responsibility for \*  
(\* soliciting entries, judging and presentation. \*  
(\* While the award now has Yaesu U.S.A. Corporation and CQ \*  
(\* Publishing as its corporate underwriters, their financial \*  
(\* support goes only to hosting the winner at the Huntsville \*  
(\* Hamfest and presenting the winner with additional gifts \*  
(\* and awards. The cost of administering all other aspects \*  
(\* of the Young Ham of the Year program falls directly to \*)

(\* Newsline. \*

(\* In going over the bills associated with making the 1995 \*

(\* presentation, it appears as if we spent about fifteen \*

(\* hundred dollars. This included the cost of one out of \*

(\* town planning session, almost a hundred telephone calls, \*

(\* about the same amount in electronic mail and faxes, plus \*

(\* the cost of making the plaque and transporting a staff \*

(\* member to Huntsville to make the presentation. \*

(\* Recognizing that it will cost about the same in 1996, \*

(\* and not wanting to tap into the normal funds that keep \*

(\* Newsline on the air, we have decided to establish a \*

(\* separate Young Ham of the Year expense service fund. Our \*

(\* target is to raise at least fifteen hundred dollars \*

(\* between now and the end of March. \*

(\* If you support honoring the young achievers of ham \*

(\* radio and want to contribute, please send your donation \*

(\* to: \*

(\* Newsline \*

(\* P.O.Box 660937 \*

(\* Arcadia, California \*

(\* 91066 \*

(\* \*

(\* Be certain to mark your check Young Ham of the Year \*

(\* service fund. \*

(\* Once we reach the needed fifteen hundred dollars the \*

(\* fund will be sealed until the monies are needed to take \*

(\* care of award related expenses. Anything in excess of \*

(\* fifteen hundred dollars will be put into the regular \*

(\* Newsline Support Fund. \*

(\* As always, we thank you. This ends the closed circuit \*

(\* with Newsline report number 952 for release on Friday, \*

(\* November 10, 1995 to follow. \*

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(\* \* \* \* \*

The following is a QST

The first ever privately launched ham radio satellite may soon be on its way into space. Also, get ready for RF powered light bulbs as the cost of getting a ham radio license goes up. These stories and more on Newsline report number 952 coming your way right now!

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#### PRIVATE HAM SATELLITE

Bob Bruninga, WB4APR may become the first ham with his own amateur radio satellite in space. The Glen Burnie, Maryland ham

hopes to have the new amateur radio satellite in orbit by next summer.

No, this is not a joke or a pipedream. Bruninga is the director of the Satellite Education Laboratory at the Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland, and the satellite called is a departmental project. Its primary aim is to provide every school in the country with packet radio satellite access:

"We try to participate in all the SAREX missions with our students. The only problem is probably only 1% of the orbital passes is the packet mode operational on the SAREX and you never know in advance.

It is very to the students to do, go to all this effort and not be able to make a packet link to the space craft. So, we think that there ought to be a very low budget, low tech packet satellite up there that is always on, always operational. And every time it comes over any high school in the country the students will see something." Bruninga

Bruninga says he plans to fly a one watt Picosat transponder operating on 2 meter FM packet at 1200 baud. The system is specifically designed for digipeating position reports.

"Once you get the satellite up there then we can track guys driving across the country in their recreational vehicles, we can track guys in their boats out in the bay and up and down the Atlantic all over the world really. That's why we think there is tremendous potential for position reporting.

I mean that's what amateur radio is. It's not sitting in your basement. As far as our ability to contribute to the state of the art and to public service, our abilities are not sitting in out basements. Our abilities are mobile." Bruninga

Bruninga says that he already has a tentative invitation from NASA for a free launch on an experimental booster. The earliest possible launch date is in May. But WB4APR says that the date could slip easily slip. A lot depends on when the satellite is ready to fly. The parts are within arms reach, says Bruninga, but construction has yet to begin.

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DOVE S-BAND IS ON

Still with ham radio satellite news. Jim White, WDOE reports that the DOVE DO-17 ham satellite S-band transmitter is on. Jim says that a recent software load allows better power control and controllers now expect to be able to keep the pesky transmitter in operation on 2,401.220 MHz.

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## RF LIGHTS

RF light bulbs are on their way and they could add to the QRN currently on the ham bands. This, after the Federal Communications Commission waives its rules to permit the General Electric Company to begin marketing a new RF powered light bulb.

At GE's request, Part 18 of the commissions regulations has been waived. Part 18 limits on the amount of RF energy that can be conducted into the electric power lines by RF lighting devices in the band 2.2 to 2.8 MHz. GE proposes marketing to consumers an unlimited number of RF light bulbs that comply with the conduction limits for non-consumer RF lighting devices in this band.

Commission rules already permit RF lighting devices used in commercial environments to place this signal level on the AC power lines. The FCC says that there has been no record of significant interference problems from the use of these devices in commercial environments. It also says that radio operations in the range 2.2 to 2.8 MHz are not normally employed or intended for reception in residential environment GE was granted a waiver for one year, and the FCC reserved the right to revoke the permit if it determines that RF lighting devices operating under the conditions of the waiver create severe interference problems.

Three years ago a California company, Intersource Technologies, promoted an RF powered light bulb that operated at 13.56 MHz. According to the manufacturer it was designed to keep unintentional radiation to a minimum. The company claimed that its 25 watt RF bulb could generate as much visible light as a 100 watt conventional bulb but these lamps were never marketed.

And the ARRL says it has a definite interest in what kind of interference the GE RF bulb may generate. The League says that it will obtain samples of the GE bulbs for testing as soon as they are available. ARRL Laboratory Supervisor Ed Hare, KA1CV, says that the new bulbs should not, if properly designed, create any more interference to Amateur Radio operations than fluorescent bulbs, dimmer switches, or other similar devices found in the home. Other experts disagree. They point to the problems that a bad incandescent lamp dimmer can create for the average ham.

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## AIRWAVE AUCTION

The Supreme Court has given the Federal Communications Commission approval to go ahead with its planned December 11th auction of 498 licenses for small businesses. A company called Radiofone Inc. had challenged the commission's cellular personal

communications services cross ownership rule, which limits cellular companies to 40 megahertz of spectrum in their cellular service areas.

But in vacating a stay issued by a Federal Appeals Court, Justice Stevens noted that allowing the national auction to go forward would not prevent the federal appeals court from granting Radiofone appropriate relief if it later found that the company's case has merit. As a result, the multi million dollar auction will proceed.

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#### 1996 VE TEST FEE

The cost of getting a ham radio license is going up again in 1996. Effective January 1st, the maximum allowable reimbursement fee for an amateur operator license examination will be \$6.07. The FCC set this amount based on the Consumer Price Index between September 1994 and September 1995. Its an increase of 17 cents from the current \$5.90 fee.

Actually, nobody really makes any profit from ham radio testing fees. Volunteer examiners and volunteer examiner coordinators are permitted to charge examinees for out of pocket expenses incurred in preparing, processing, administering, or coordinating reexaminations for amateur operator licenses. The amount of any such reimbursement fee from any one examinee for any one examination session, regardless of the number of elements administered, must not exceed the maximum allowable fee.

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#### FCC WIRELESS CHIEF MOVES

Regina Keeney, chief of the FCC's Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, which oversees Amateur Radio, has been promoted to chief of the Commissions Common Carrier Bureau. Keeney, who has been chief of the WTB since the bureau was formed last December replaces Kathleen Wallman at Common Carrier.

Regina Keeney is the daughter of John Markey, W2AAW, and Marge Markey, N4XZD. When she was named as chief of the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau she is quoted as having said that she had grown up in an enthusiastic ham radio family.

The FCC, in announcing Keeney's move over to Common Carrier said that during her tenure at the WTB she oversaw the commission's auctions of electromagnetic spectrum and worked to develop fair rules of competition in the wireless communications marketplace. Thanks to her leadership, says the FCC, the previous backlog in license application processing has been cut in half.

No successor to Keeney in the Wireless Telecommunications

Bureau has yet been announced.

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#### PARALYZED ASSISTANCE NEEDED

Bill Farley, WA5FLG has posted a packet message asking for help for a paralyzed ham. Bill says that Lowell Richardson, W5UBW, an avid DX chaser has become paralyzed but wants to be able to communicate.

Bill says that Lowell no longer can speak. Bill is looking for any device that would help his friend who has the use of one hand only.

If you have any ideas, send them by packet to WA5FLG@K5WPH or call Bill at (505) 437-5508. He is in Alamogordo, New Mexico and is on Mountain Standard Time.

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#### CANADA ADOPTS IARP

On the international scene, Canada has announced at the that it has agreed to adhere to the Region 2 International Amateur Radio Permit. Its the fourth country to do so and has issued the first two permits. These went to Radio Amateurs Canada President Farrell Hopwood, VE7RD, and IARU Region 2 Vice President Tom Atkins, VE3CDM.

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#### AUSTRIAN LICENSED

The Republic of Austria will celebrate its 1000 year anniversary in 1996 and Austrian hams will be a part of the celebration. This with the government authorizing special call sign prefixes for radio amateurs.

At the request of the Austrian Amateur Radio Society, communication authorities will permit Austrian amateurs to use the prefix OEM for the entire year. Use of the prefixes will be voluntary and the national society will sponsor two on the air operating awards in conjunction with their use.

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#### INSTRUCTOR OF THE YEAR

Nominations are open for ARRL Instructor of the Year awards, the ARRL Herb S. Brier Award, the ARRL Professional Educator of the Year and the ARRL Professional Instructor of the Year. Send nominations to your league Section Manager by January 31, 1996.

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## CUBAN VHF GROUP ACTIVITIES

In DX, the Cuban VHF Group is planning some activities to say goodbye to the "old" 1995 and will activate some "new" grids around the country.

From November 22th to the 26th, the group will operate an IOTA DXpedition to "Cayo Jutia", in Grid NA93. This is a little key 2 miles away from the north coast of Cuba's most western province, Pinar del Rio. Operators will be from Italy, Spain, Portugal, France, Mexico and Cuba.

Operation is planned for 6 meters, 2 meters and 1,296 Mhz. Other bands will be added if gear becomes available for 220 Mhz and 70 cm.

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### TROPO DX

Ken Rameriz, KP3XS in Puerto Rico says that the best Tropo event he has seen in a long time occurred the evening of October 30th and was still present at 1 AM EST on Tuesday the 31st. Ken says via the Internets VHF Reflector that he took to the airwaves at 8:30 PM EST and found the band open to Florida. He then proceeded to work every Florida grid down to the Keys. The only grid missed was EL86.

Ken days that he kept hoping one of the Cubans would get on but no luck. He did hear one of the Florida stations work KD4UPF in FM18 and quickly swung the beams North East where his first contact was KM1X in Rhode Island! Ken then went on to work 90 stations in the next 4 hours including WZ20 all the way to 1.2 GHZ!

Talk about a night of unbelievable tropo DX.

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### DX S92P0

Meantime on the High Frequency bands look for Principie Island on the air from November 21st to December 6th. A group of French operator will sign S92P on all bands on CW, SSB and RTTY. They will also be active in the CQ World Wide DX CW Contest. QSL via F6KEQ.

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### MARTIAN TRIVIA

A bit of ham radio television trivia via packet from Tim Ertl, KE3HT. And this is really going to take you back a few years.

How many of you remember the 1960's TV series The Munsters? No, not the recent movie seen on Fox but actual black and white

TV shows that featured the Yvonne De Carlo as Lilly and Fred Gwenne as Herman Munster.

Well, Tim sez one episode that had a ham radio connection. He describes the plot as Herman playing ham radio operator using the call sign W6XRL/4 calling CQ. Then, while tuning around he bumps in to a couple of kids playing as Martians and as usual, things get out of control.

So Herman enlists the help of Grandpa Munster played by Al Lewis. Grandpa has a Radio Direction finder of sorts. Well it's really a transistorized Divining Rod that they use to find the Martians who, as you already know, are nothing more than some neighborhood kids.

KE3HT adds that it is obvious that the episode was done in fun but he will bet one of the shows writers was a ham.

(\*\*\*\*\*

And for this week, that's all from the Amateur Radio Newsline. You can write to us at:

NEWSLINE  
P.O.Box 660937  
Arcadia, California  
91066

For now, with Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF at our editors desk, 73 and we thank you for listening.

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